



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/713,738	11/13/2003	Kulvir Singh Bhogal	AUS920030864US1	2700
28722	7590	07/21/2005	EXAMINER	
BRACEWELL & PATTERSON, L.L.P. P.O. BOX 969 AUSTIN, TX 78767-0969			LEA EDMONDS, LISA S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2835	

DATE MAILED: 07/21/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<p align="center">Office Action Summary</p>	<p>Application No.</p> <p align="center">10/713,738</p>	<p>Applicant(s)</p> <p align="center">BHOGAL, KULVIR SINGH</p>	
	<p>Examiner</p> <p align="center">Lisa Lea-Edmonds</p>	<p>Art Unit</p> <p align="center">2835</p>	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 November 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 11-18 and 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 9, 10 and 19 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 13 November 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
2. Claims 5 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 5 and 15 recites the limitation "the connection port" in line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 11, 13, 14, 16, 18, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wooden et al. (6445576). With respect claims 1, 3, 4, 6, and 8, Wooden et al. teaches a housing bay (120) providing access to an internal data port (122) in a computer, the housing bay (120) comprising an access door (121) rotatably connected to an opening of a computer housing (100), wherein the access door (121) occludes the opening in the computer housing (100) when the access door (121) is closed, the access door (121) having a hinged end having a hinge (124) that is connected to the computer housing (100), a data port (122) proximate to the hinged end of the access door (121), the data port (122) capable of providing

Art Unit: 2835

a data connection between a data line inside the computer and an peripheral device, and an open end (116) for manually accessing the peripheral device when coupling or decoupling the peripheral device to the data port (122), wherein, when open, the access door (121) angles away from an exterior surface of the computer to allow the peripheral device to be inserted into or removed from the data port (122), the data port (122) being in an interior of the computer, wherein, when closed, the access door (121) is co-planar to the exterior surface of the computer, the peripheral device being operable when the access door (121) is closed, wherein the access door (121) is co-planar to the exterior surface of the computer regardless of whether the peripheral device is inside the computer or not, wherein the housing bay further comprising securement clips (see the rail structure for figures 2-4) physically attached to the access door (121), the securement clips securing the peripheral device to an interior of the access door (121), and the securement clips providing an alignment for a connection of the peripheral device to the data port, wherein the peripheral device is a data storage device. With respect to method claims, 11, 13, 14, 16, and 18, Wooden et al. teaches the method steps as claimed, in that the apparatus, as claimed by claims 1, 3, 4, 6, and 8 and rejected above, are taught by Wooden et al. (see for example figures 1-4). With respect to claim 20, Wooden et al. teaches a computer having a housing bay (120) that provides access to an internal data port (122) in the computer, the computer comprising an access door (121) rotatably connected to an opening of a computer housing (100), wherein the access door (121) occludes the opening in the computer housing when the access door (121) is closed, the access door having a hinged end having a hinge (124) that is connected to the computer housing (100), a data port (122) proximate to the hinged end of the access door (121), the data port (122) capable of providing a data connection between a data line inside the computer and an peripheral device, and an open end (116) for manually accessing the peripheral device when coupling or

Art Unit: 2835

decoupling the peripheral device to the data port (122); wherein, when open, the access door (121) angles away from an exterior surface of the computer to allow the peripheral device to be inserted into or removed from the data port (122), the data port (122) being in an interior of the computer (see for example figures 1-4).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 5, 7, 15, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wooden et al. (6445576). With respect to claims 5 and 15, Wooden et al. teaches the invention as set forth by claims 1 and 11 (see the above rejection). However, Wooden et al. lacks a teaching of the connection port being physically connected to the hinged end of the access door as claimed. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the data port (122) of Wooden et al. to be physically connected to the hinged end of the access door since it has been held that rearranging parts of an invention involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Japikse*, 86 USPQ 70. With respect to claims 7 and 17, Wooden et al. teaches the invention as set forth by claims 1 and 11 (see the above rejection). However, Wooden et al. lacks a teaching of the data port is a universal serial bus (USB) port as claimed. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the data port (122) of Wooden et al. to be a universal serial bus

Art Unit: 2835

(USB) port, as the USB port is merely one of many "off the shelf" ports that are readily accessible to one skilled in the art at the present time.

6. Claims 2 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wooden et al. (6445576) as applied to claims 1 and 11 above, and further in view of Kostick (5961359). With respect to claims 2 and 12, Wooden et al. teaches the invention as set forth by claims 1 and 11 (see the above rejection). However, Wooden et al. lacks a teaching of the peripheral device being inoperable when the access door (121) is open. The apparatus of Kostick is relied upon solely for its teaching of a device being inoperable when the access door is open (see for example column 5 lines 40-45). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the teachings of Kostick to be incorporated into the apparatus of Wooden et al. to maintain a safe and relatively dust free environment.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 9, 10 and 19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: as to claims 9, 10 and 19, patentability resides, at least in part, in the computer further comprising an electronic lock which is capable of being unlocked by inputting a code into the computer and a switch plunger on the access door being aligned with a disabling switch inside the computer which disables the data port inside the computer, as claimed and in combination with the other limitations form the base claims.

Art Unit: 2835

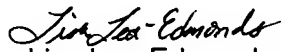
Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Please note the teachings of Liu (6227632), Diaz (20020101710), Jeong (5572402), Eddings et al. (6157540), Spence et al. (6407911), and Saito et al. (20010036060).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lisa Lea-Edmonds whose telephone number is 571-272-2043. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Field can be reached on (571) 272-2800, ext 35. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Lisa Lea-Edmonds
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2835

2005-07-19